

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph 1, page 1, with the following amended paragraph:

This application takes priority under 119(e) from U.S. provisional application serial number (not yet assigned) [~~Attorney Docket Number 106-00P~~] 60/255,984 filed December 15, 2000. This provisional application is incorporated by reference in its entirety herein to the extent that it is not inconsistent with the disclosure herein.

Please replace paragraph 2, page 8, with the following amended paragraph:

Addition of one or more compounds of this invention to mixtures of LC's can result in changes in physical or optical properties of those mixtures that make the resulting mixtures improved for applications in optical devices. In particular, the addition of one or more of the compounds of this invention can broaden the smectic C range of a given mixture. The addition of one or more of the compounds of this invention can improve alignment of a given LC or FLC mixture in a cell, leading to improved contrast in the optical device employing the LC or FLC cell. Of particular benefit, the compounds of this invention are compatible with (i.e., do not significantly detrimentally affect the properties of) LC and FLC materials that exhibit true bookshelf alignment. LC compounds exhibiting true bookshelf alignment are described for example in pending U.S. applications 60/229,892, filed September 1, 2000 and 09/653,437 filed September 1, 2000, which are incorporated by reference herein to provide examples of LC compounds which may be combined with the compounds of this invention to provide useful LC and FLC compositions. U.S. provisional applications ~~Attorney Docket Nos. 85-00P and 86-00P~~ 60/256,063 filed December 15, 2000, and 60/256,229, filed December 15, 2000 also provide examples of LC compounds that may be combined with the compounds of the present invention to provide useful LC and FLC compositions. U.S. regular applications ~~Attorney Docket Nos. 85-00 and 86-00~~ 09/754,033 filed January 3, 2001, and 09/753,749 filed January 3, 2001 (commonly owned and concurrently filed with this application) and which take priority from the provisional applications filed December 15, 2000 also provide examples of LC compounds that may be combined with the compounds of the present invention to provide useful LC and FLC compositions.